

5 November 2015

[REDACTED]

By email

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the “FOI Act”)

I refer to your email of **12 October 2015** in which you requested information under the FOI Act.

Your request

You made the following request:

You recently published work on how the NHS can improve the productivity of elective care - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/improving-productivity-in-elective-care>.

I would like to request the following information:

1) I understand this work was undertaken by external consultants. Please can you provide the total cost of the work undertaken?

2) Appendix D of the work provides some of the financial modelling. Please can you tell me how many "decreased outpatient appointments" (in number of appointments) and "postoperative length of stay" (number of nights in a hospital bed) sit behind the calculations of the £295 and £351 on page 22 (primary knee replacement).

Decision

Monitor holds the information that you have requested.

Monitor has decided to release all of the information that it holds.

1. The total value of the contract was £240,396 (£200,330 + VAT). The project was carried out jointly by Monitor and external consultants. The consultants were commissioned to undertake the part of the project relating to international research and developing the financial model. The Monitor team were responsible for the NHS research, including site visits, data gathering and developing NHS best practice case studies.

2. The figure of £295 is based on a reduction of follow-up outpatient appointments from 3.5 to 1 (therefore 2.5 follow-up appointments avoided at a cost of £118 per appointment). The figure of £351 is based on a reduction of post-operative length of stay from 5 days to 4 days (therefore 1 bed day avoided, at a cost of £351).

Review rights

If you consider that your request for information has not been properly handled or if you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you can try to resolve this informally with the person who dealt with your request. If you remain dissatisfied, you may seek an internal review within Monitor of the issue or the decision. A senior member of Monitor's staff, who has not previously been involved with your request, will undertake that review.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of any internal review conducted by Monitor, you may complain to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether your request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the FOI Act.

A request for an internal review should be submitted in writing to FOI Request Reviews, Monitor, Wellington House, 133-155 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UG or by email to foi@monitor.gov.uk.

Please note that this letter will shortly be published on our website. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is disclosed to the public at large. We will, of course, remove your personal information (e.g. your name and contact details) from the version of the letter published on our website to protect your personal information from general disclosure.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Ville', with a large, sweeping underline stroke.

Nick Ville
Project Director Policy